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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/510,031

Examiner

William H. Mayo III

Applicant(s)

TACHIBANA ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to September 30, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 22 and 29-35.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on September 17, 2007 has been entered.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 22 and 29-35 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: This invention deals with a method of connecting a round conductive wire of the cable to a flat contact of the connector comprising pressing an end portion of the round conductive wire to form a pair of opposing flat surfaces in the end portion and welding one of the flat surfaces of the round conductive wire to the flat contact by passing electric current between the pair of electrodes (claim 22). This invention also deals with a cable comprising cable main body having a plurality of round conducting wires, wherein each of the round conducting wires has a pair of opposed flat surfaces formed on the end portion and is electrical connected to each of the flat contacts at part of one of the flat surfaces by welding (claim 29). This invention also deals with a cable comprising a

connector including a plurality of ground contacts each having a hexahedron shape, a flat plate passing through the openings to secure the ground contacts disposed apart from each other, a plurality of first signal contacts disposed between adjacent ground contacts on one side of the flat plate, a plurality of second signal contacts disclosed between adjacent ground contacts on the other side of the flat plate, wherein the first and second signal contacts are located inside the ground contacts (claim 32). The above state claimed limitations, is not taught or suggested by the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed September 17, 2007 have been fully considered and they are persuasive. Specifically, the applicant's argument that none of the prior art of record teaches or suggests "a method of connecting a round conductive wire of the cable to a flat contact of the connector comprising pressing an end portion of the round conductive wire to form a pair of opposing flat surfaces in the end portion and welding one of the flat surfaces of the round conductive wire to the flat contact by passing electric current between the pair of electrodes (claim 22), nor a cable comprising cable main body having a plurality of round conducting wires, wherein each of the round conducting wires has a pair of opposed flat surfaces formed on the end portion and is

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electrical connected to each of the flat contacts at part of one of the flat surfaces by welding (claim 29), nor a cable comprising a connector including a plurality of ground contacts each having a hexahedron shape, a flat plate passing through the openings to secure the ground contacts disposed apart from each other, a plurality of first signal contacts disposed between adjacent ground contacts on one side of the flat plate, a plurality of second signal contacts disclosed between adjacent ground contacts on the other side of the flat plate, wherein the first and second signal contacts are located inside the ground contacts (claim 32)" is persuasive and therefore the claims have been allowed.

Communication

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William H. Mayo III whose telephone number is (571)-272-1978. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30am-6:00 pm (alternate Fridays off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



William H. Mayo III
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2831

WHM III
September 30, 2007